Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 05-1105

THE WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON HANCOCK COMMUNICATION'S, INC. PETITION TO REDEFINE A RURAL TELEPHONE COMPANY SERVICE AREA IN THE STATE OF INDIANA

CC Docket No. 96-45

Released Date: April 20, 2005

Comment Date: April 29, 2005

Reply Comment Date: May 6, 2005

The Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on a petition filed by Hancock Communications, Inc. (HCI) pursuant to section 54.207(c) of the Commission's rules, requesting the Federal Communications Commission's agreement with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission's (IURC) proposal to redefine the Sprint Indiana service area of United Telephone Company of Indiana, Inc. d/b/a/ Sprint. Specifically, HCI seeks the Commission's agreement with the IURC proposal to redefine the Sprint Indiana service area to include the Wilkinson and Knightstown wire center as a separate service area.

This is the Public Notice required by section 54.207(c)(2).² If the Commission initiates a proceeding to consider the Petition, it must do so by May 24, 2005, pursuant to our rules.³ If the Commission does not act on the Petition by May 24, 2005, the definition proposed by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission will be deemed approved by the Commission and shall take effect in accordance with state procedures.⁴

Pursuant to Sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments on or before **April 29, 2005**, and reply comments on

¹ Petition of Hancock Communications for Redefinition of Rural Telephone Company Service Areas, CC Docket No. 96-45, filed February 10, 2005 (Petition).

²47 C.F.R. § 54.207(c)(2).

³47 C.F.R. § 54.207(c)(3)(i).

⁴See 47 C.F.R. § 54.207(c)(3)(ii). The Commission delegated its authority to act on petitions to redefine rural service areas to the Wireline Competition Bureau. 47 C.F.R. § 54.207(e).

or before **May 6, 2005**. All pleadings are to reference **CC Docket No. 96-45**. Comments may be filed by using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by using paper copies.⁵

Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. If multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, however, commenters must transmit one electronic copy of the comments to each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply. Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, commenters must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail).

The Commission's contractor, Natek, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002.

- -The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- -All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners.
- -Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building.
- -Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.
- -U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554.
- -All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

Pursuant to section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this proceeding will be conducted as a permit-but-disclose proceeding in which ex parte communications are permitted subject to disclosure. For further information, contact Mark Seifert, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-7400, TTY (202) 418-0484.

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⁵ See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 Fed. Reg. 24121 (1998).